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Gospel Is Singing from the Heart

By Donna Cornelius JOURNAL EDITOR

ith Trussville growing and changing almost daily, it's nice to know that a traditional Southern event still draws a crowd.

When the "Glory Heirs," a husband-and-wife duet, celebrated their first anniversary with a singing at the Trussville

Community Center, the response was greater than anyone had anticipated.

"People came and then turned around and left, because there was no parking and no seating," said Henrietta Miller, Nila's mother. Mrs. Miller operates the sound system for the Glory Heirs and serves as an unofficial manager.

"I mainly tell them where to go and when to be there," she said

Nila and Tim Headley blend their voices as they sing Southern gospel favorites as the "Glory Heirs." The duet's first anniversary concert in 1996 drew an overflow crowd at the Trussville Community Center.

Photo special to the Journal

Nila Miller and husband with a smile.

For this year's third anniversary singing, billed as "Trussville's Only Annual Southern Gospel Event," Mrs. Miller and the Headleys have planned ahead for a large crowd. The singing, set for April 25 at 6:30 p.m., will be at Eastminster Presbyterian Church.

"They have 300 chairs in place, with room for 200 more," said Mrs. Miller. "We'll be ready for a lot of people, and we hope to have a crowd. You just never know with a singing."

Nila Headley has been singing since she was in first grade, said her mother.

"Her teacher had a gift for making children feel loved, and she really keyed in on music," Mrs. Miller said. "One day at church, Nila announced, 'I want to sing,' and the minister handed her a mike.

"My husband, Nila's father, was a minister, and he had prayed and asked God for a daughter who could play the piano and sing," she continued.

Nila met her future husband and musical partner when she sang at the church where Tim was minister of music. Tim, who also has a minister father, was noticeably taken with the young soloist.

"It turned out he'd seen her on the 'Country Boy Eddie Show,' " said Mrs. Miller. "She'd been singing on that show for two years."

After a whirlwind courtship, the two married. Tim is minister of music at Victory Baptist Church, and Nila is pianist and choir director there.

The Glory Heirs began performing in 1995, taking their name from Romans 8:16-17. The Headleys and Mrs. Miller take

their outreach through music seriously and enjoy spreading a message of faith through song.

"Southern gospel is something people are hungry for, because it tells a message," said Mrs. Miller. "One minister told Nila and Tim, 'You sang in 30 minutes what it would have taken me a month to preach."

Dubbed the "sweetest music this side of heaven," Southern gospel singers encourage audience participation. They often urge listeners to "join in if you know this one" and don't mind if those in the crowd stand up and clap their hands to the beat.

"It makes you want to tap you toes and clap your hands," said Mrs. Miller. "There are some groups that don't sing that style, but you know, Christians should be the happiest people on earth."

And there are other differences, too, between Southern gospel songs and the hymns with which most church-goers are familiar.

"Traditional hymns tell the story of what has been, and Southern gospel tells about what's going to be," said Mrs. Miller.

Joining the Glory Heirs at the April 25 singing will be two other groups. The Davisons are made up of a mother, father, and three sons, and the Brethren is composed of four young men, the oldest of whom is 24.

"You'll see a variety," said Mrs. Miller. "Each one will tell a story about God, and that's what it's all about"

There's no admission charge to the event, but if you're a Southern gospel enthusiast, you may want to come early. There seem to be a lot of folks who like a little toetapping and hand-clapping while they're worshiping God through music.

TRUSSVILLE'S ONLY ANNUAL SOUTHERN GOSPEL EVENT RETURNS

HOSTED BY

THE GLORY HEIRS

PRESENTING THEIR THIRD ANNIVERSARY SINGING WITH SPECIAL GUESTS

THE DAVISONS & THE BRETHREN

SATURDAY APRIL 25, 1998 6:30 P.M.

Eastminster Presbyterian

Church

1751 Gadsden Highway, Trussville, Al

FREE ADMISSION

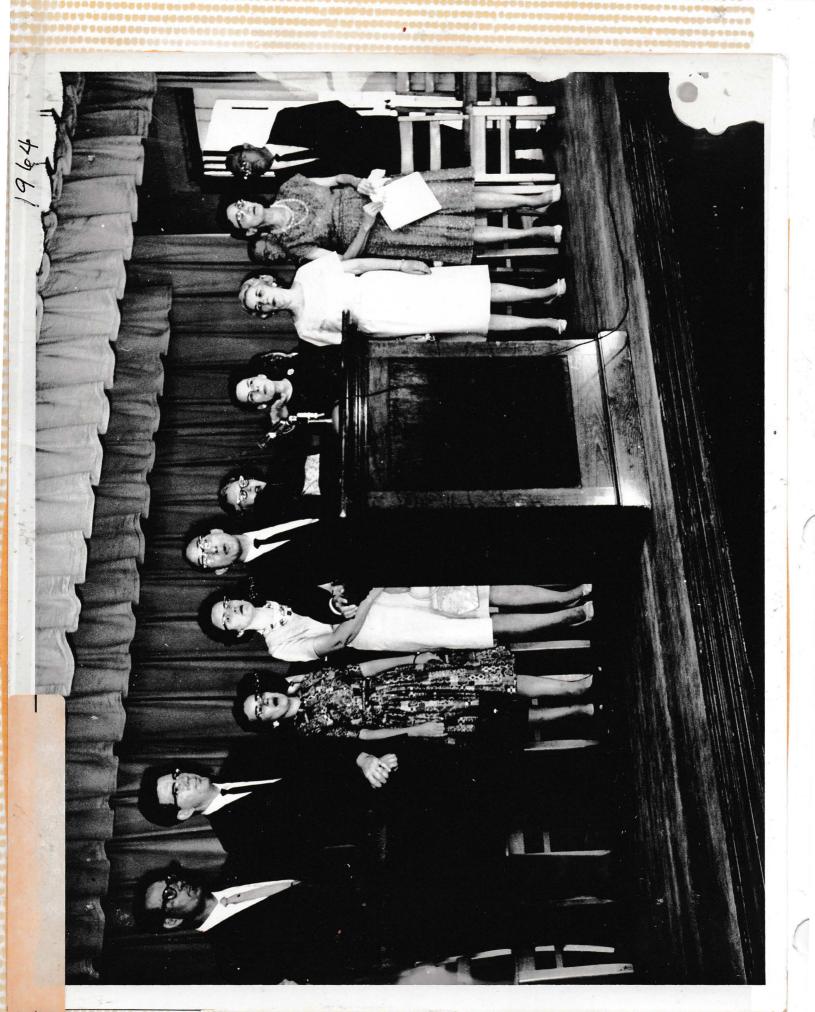
For Information Call Nila Headley 205-655-8964



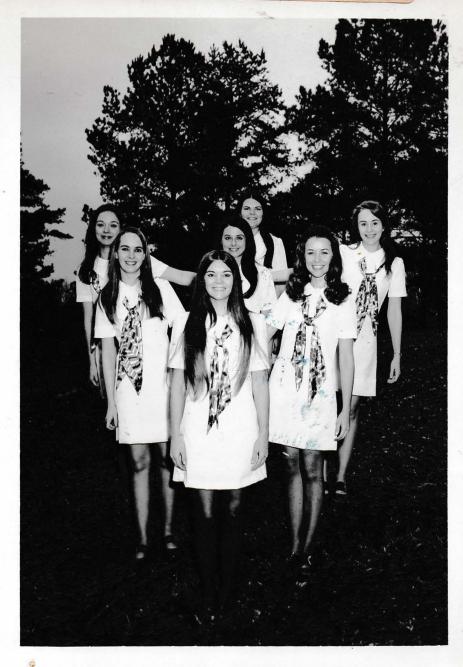








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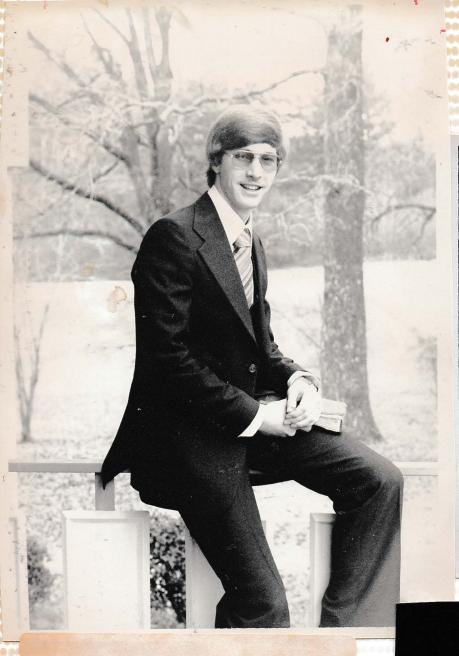


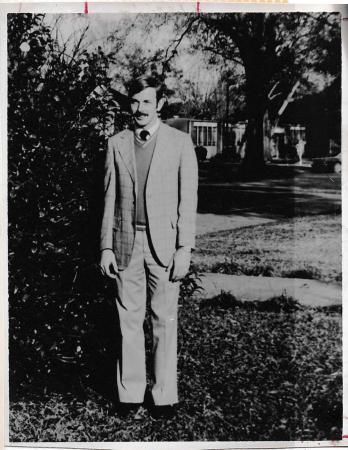


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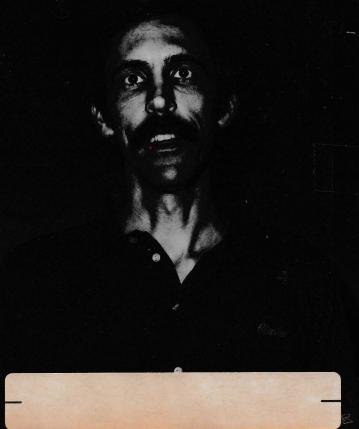


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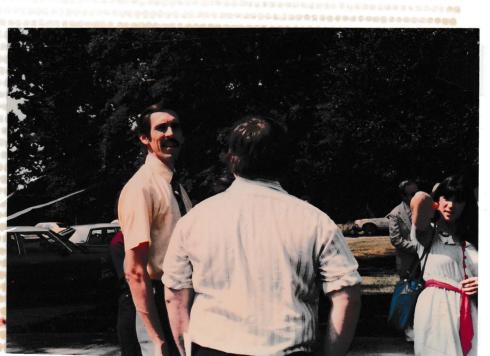


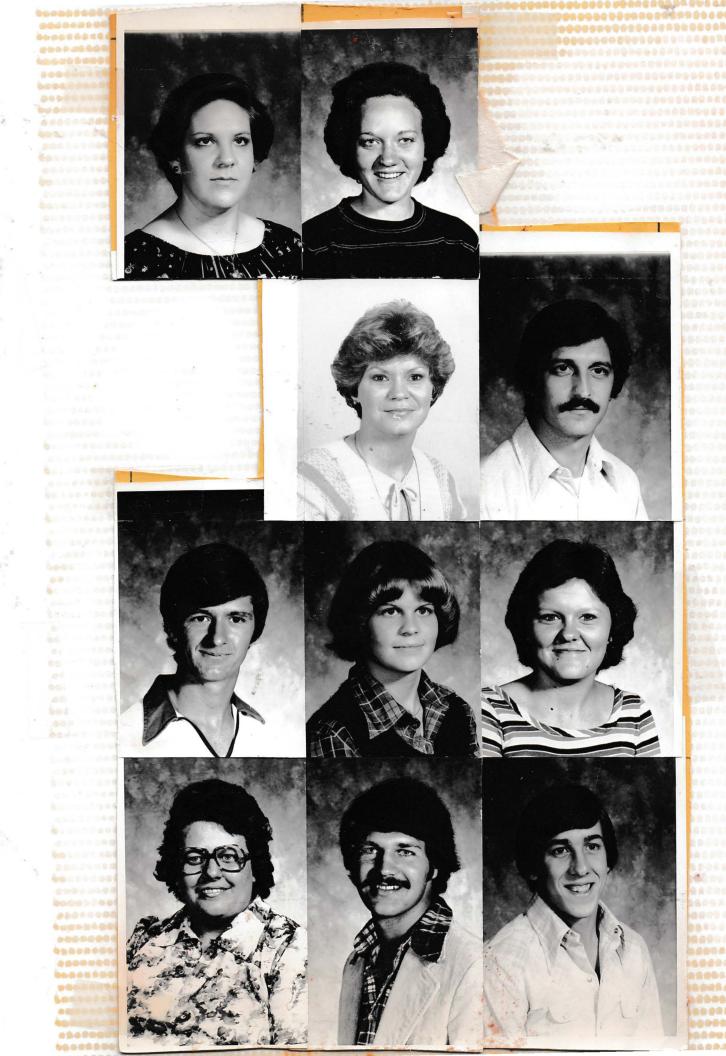
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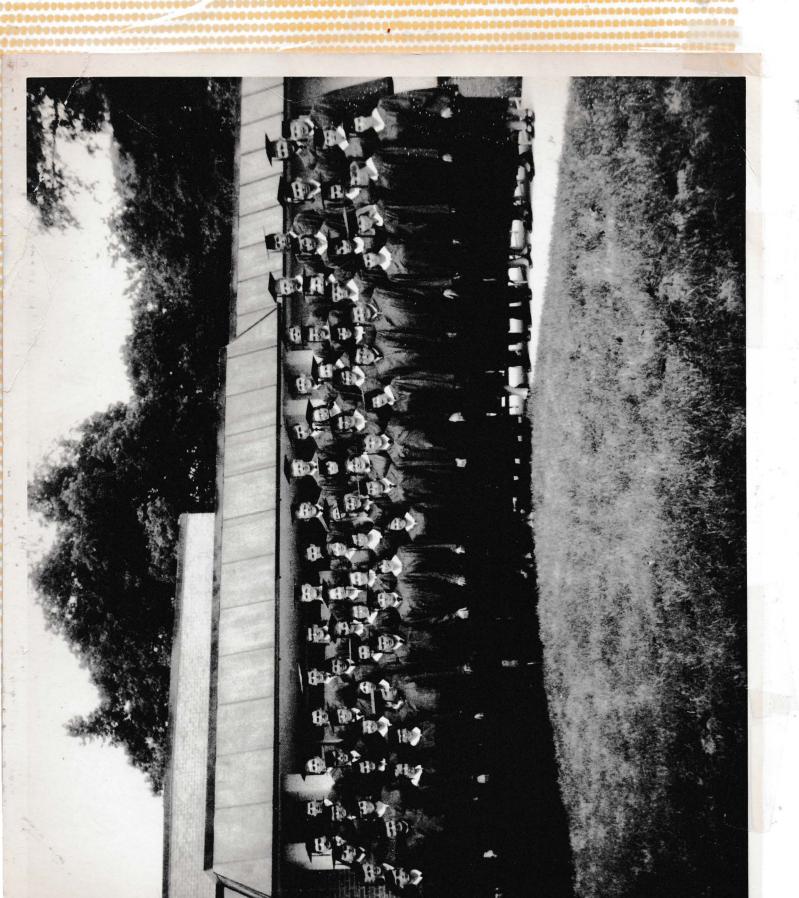












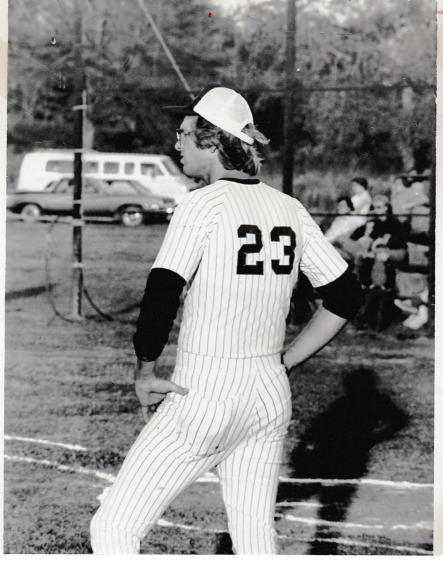












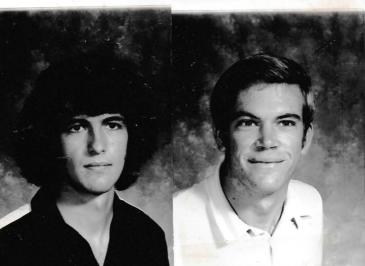
















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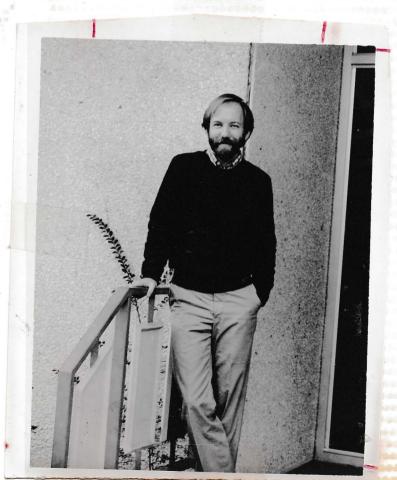








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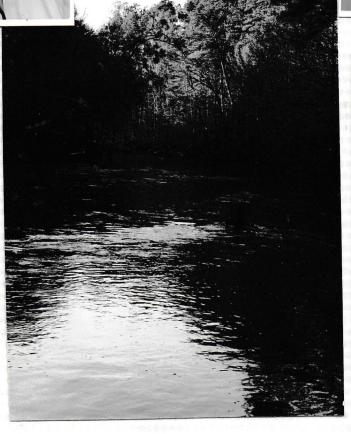


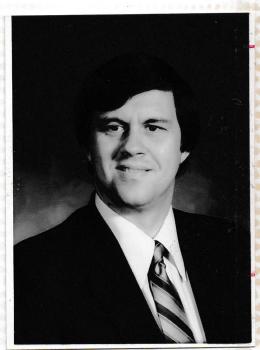












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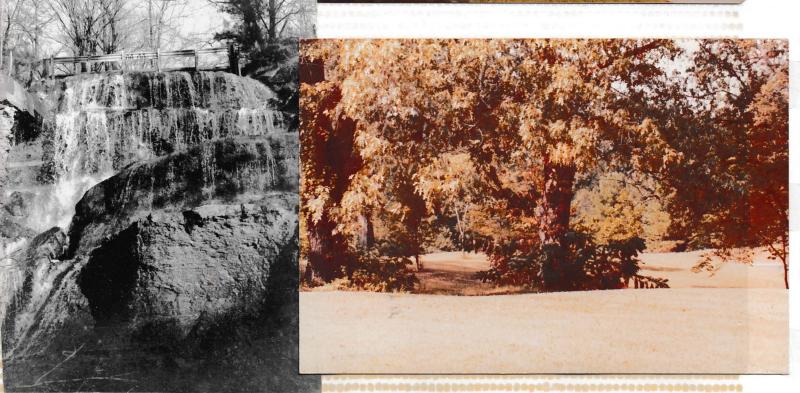


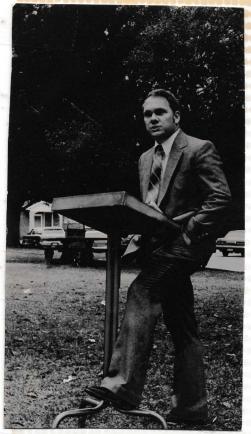




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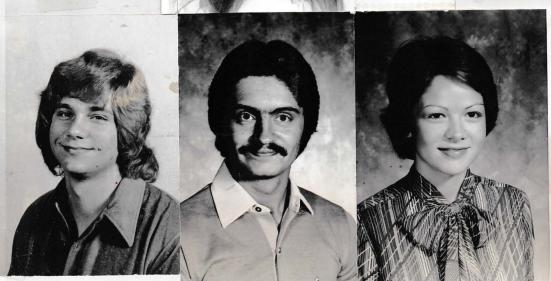




















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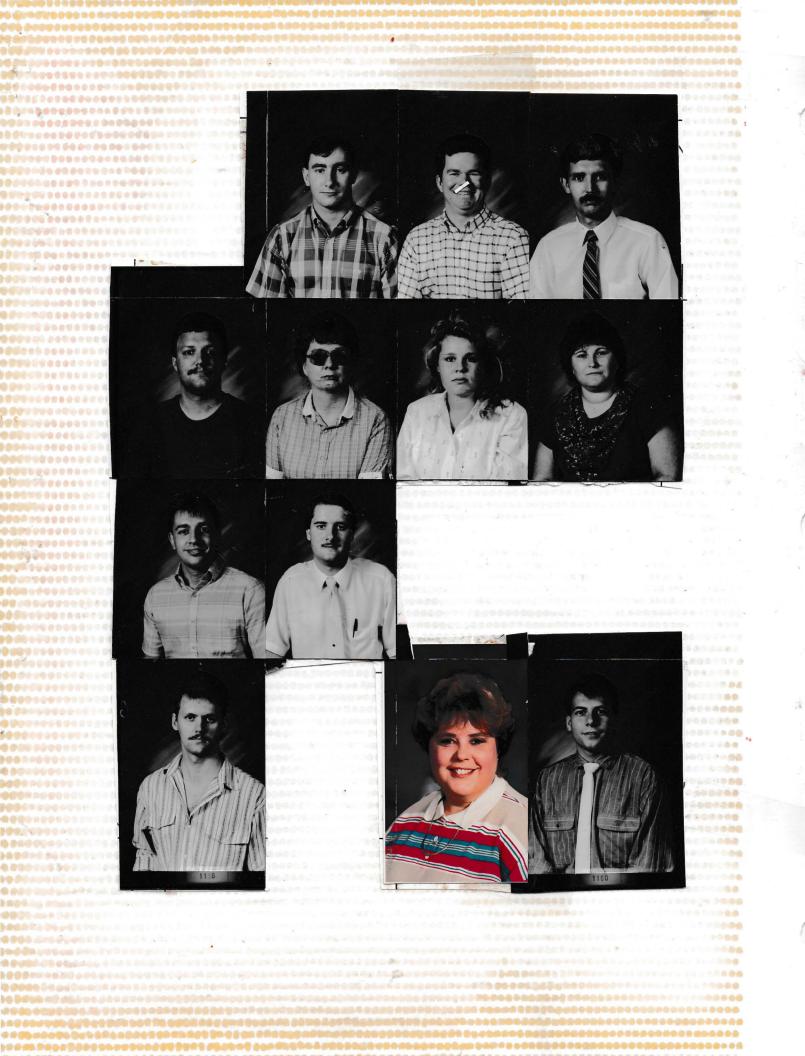




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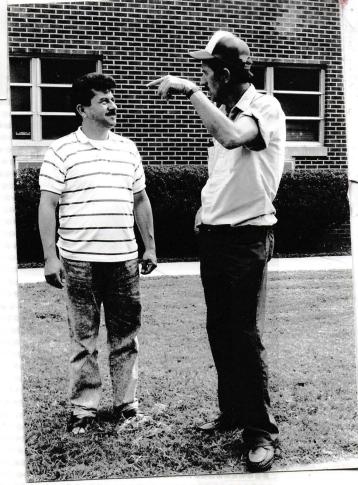




































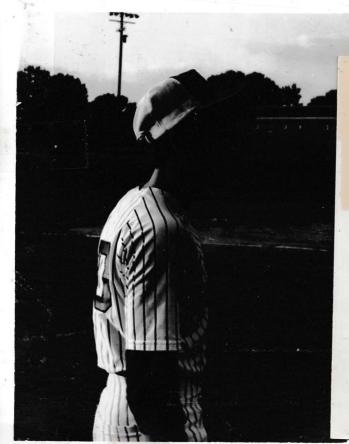




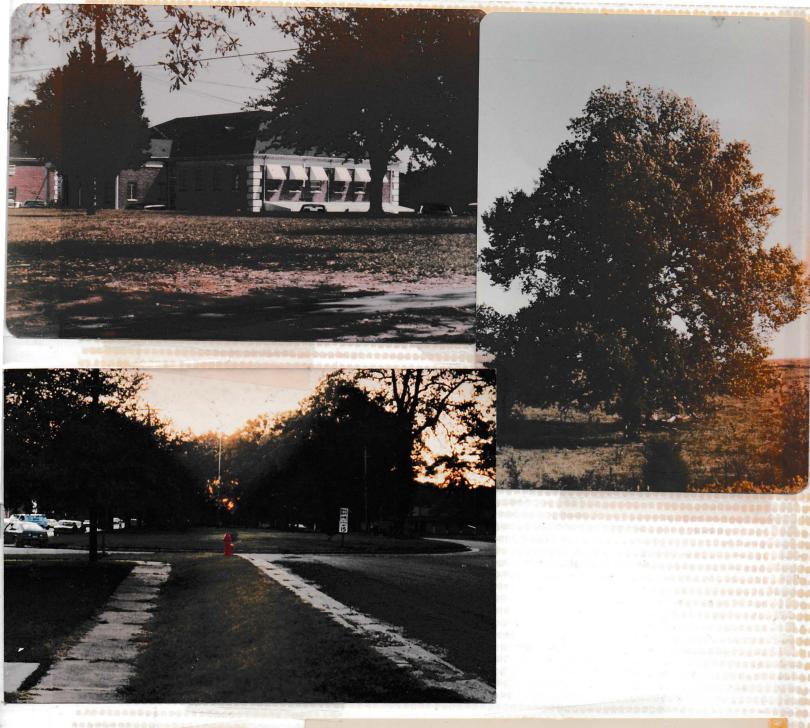


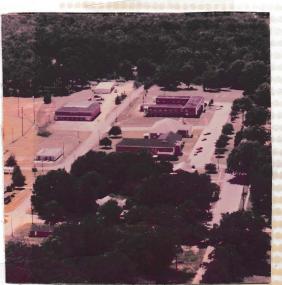






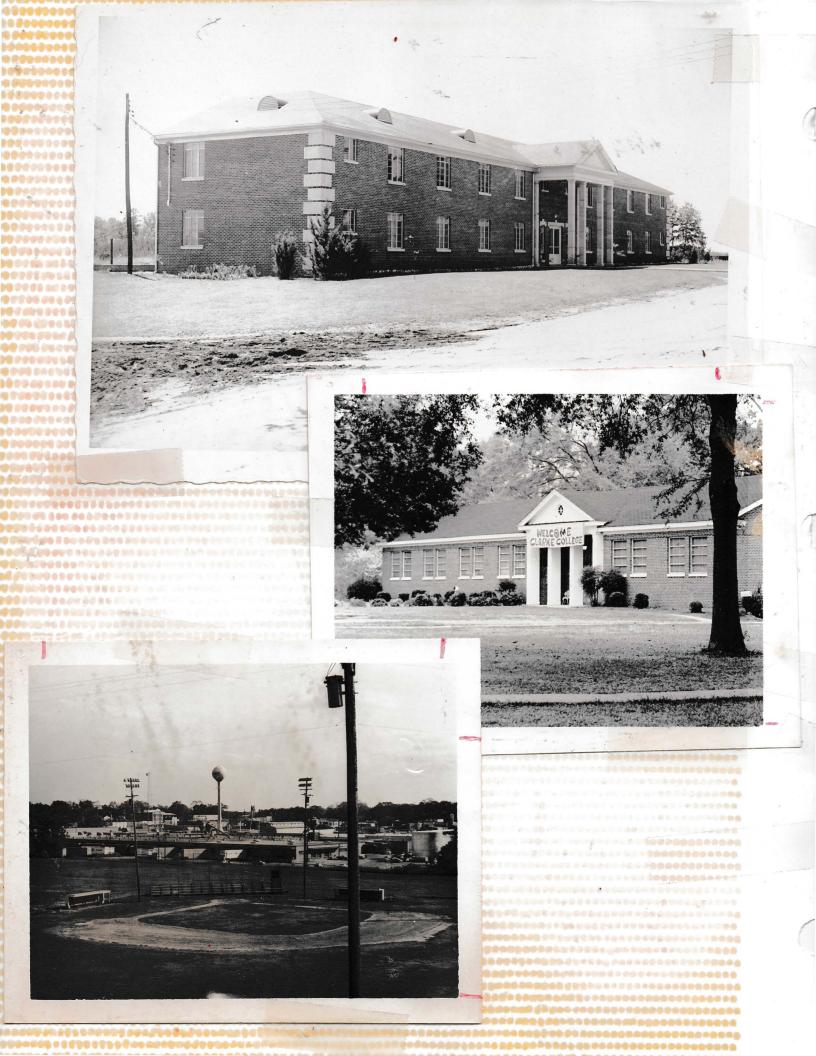






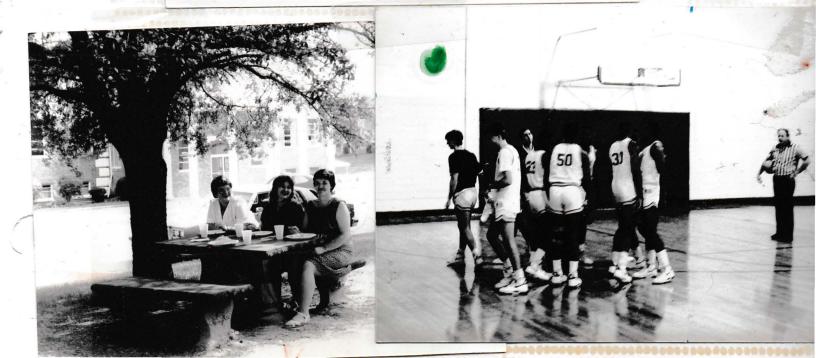














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Clarke College hires Salley as dual hoops coach

By MARTY STAMPER

Star sports writer

NEWTON — Clarke College has announced the hiring of Jerry Salley to coach both the men's and women's basketball teams here this season.

Clarke had separate basketball coaches last year. However, Ricky Lindsey resigned the men's job and Steve Curtis left the women's job. Curtis took an assistant women's coach position at Ole Miss.

The Panthers were 15-15 last season and 9-20 in 1989-90. Four of the 1990-91 wins were by forfeit, three from Southeastern Bible and one from Wesley College.

The Lady Panthers were 11-13 last season in making a comeback after a one-year layoff. Three of the Lady Panthers' wins were forfeits, two from Judson College and one from Faulkner (Ala.) State.

Salley has had head coaching jobs at several Louisiana high schools. Among his stops were Crowville, Mansville, Pelican, Riverdale Academy, Martin, and Minden.

He also was at Southern Arkansas University-El Dorado Junior College. There he had a team finish third in the Arkansas state tournament, losing by six points to eventual NJCAA national champion Westark.



Salley

It was Bossier Parish (La.) Community College coach Mike McConathy who told Salley of the Clarke openings. BPCC competes in the Miss-Lou Conference along with Clarke.

Salley hopes to take full advantage of his Louisiana background.

"I have a lot of friends who have coached for a long time in Louisiana," Salley said.

Between the Martin and Minden years, Salley was in the insurance business for four years. Minden gave him the chance to do both and Salley was glad to get back into coaching.

"It's the only thing I've ever done that I've been happy in," he said.

Nine of his years were at Riverdale Academy, where his teams won four state championships and were state runnerup on two other occasions.

He also coached Riverdale to two state championships in track to go with a pair of second-place finishes. At Pelican, his track teams finished second in the state twice.

During his career, Salley has had 16 basketball teams reach the Louisiana state quarterfinals.

Salley prepped at Class C Pleasant Hill High School, where he was an all-stater three times and was Louisiana's Mr. Basketball as a senior in 1961.

He played his freshman and sophomore years at Northeast Louisiana, starting the second year. He

See CLARKE

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then transferred to Nicholls State, where he was a two-year starter.

Only two players return from the 1990-91 Clarke men's team—point guard Chad Osborne (19.6 ppg, 2.8 rpg, 4.4 apg) and Jon Jones (13.4 ppg, 8.3 rpg, 3.8 apg). Kirk Baker (11.3 ppg, 6.7 rpg) transferred to Belhaven College, while the others lost their eligibility. Osborne was 88 of 249 from 3-point range and 124 of 146 (84.9 percent) at the free-throw line as a freshman.

Jovian Jones from Morgan City (La.) Catholic High School; 5-foot-8 guard Mark Dupuis, a walkon at Southeastern Louisiana last year; 6-foot guard Stanley Shelby from Pearl; 6-foot-4 Corey Speech, a 1987 graduate of Jackson Jim Hill; 6-foot-3 Andre Hardy from Inkston, Mich., who played at Itawamba Community College last year but was released by the Indians due to the new out-of-state limitations; 6-foot-7 Mar-

vin Abney from Inkston; 6-foot-6 Johnathan Lloyd from Jonesboro-Hodge (La.); 6-foot-3½ Chuck Wheaton from Bay Springs; 6-foot-4 Troy Joseph from East Jefferson High School in New Orleans; and 6-foot-2 Oscar Duplesis, also from East Jefferson.

Salley recently conducted a men's tryout with 29 prospects showing up.

"I think we'll be competitive this year," he said. "We're going to be strong at guard, but we don't have a real big inside player. If it had not been so late when I came here, I would have got three or four more players from Louisiana that were highly recruited.

As for the Lady Panthers, Salley has five returning veterans in Rosalyn Phillips, Vickie Branch (3.7 ppg, 1.3 rpg), Andrea Longino (13.4 ppg, 6.0 rpg), Tangela Myles (7.7 ppg), and Linshanda Brumfield (4.1 ppg, 6.3 rpg).

Phillips averaged 19.6 p 6.5 rebounds, 2.5 assists, an steals in 11 games before being academically ineligible the second semester.

Myles only played in games.

Salley has signed 5-footmantha White from Covin La.; 5-foot-11 Stacey Bell Tri-County Academy; 5-f Gwen Young from Pearl; Dondrea Burks, also from I

"I'm really looking forwa it," Salley said of his first ye the Baptist-supported sc "My dad was a Baptist prea

"Everybody here has super nice. I feel like we some good players."

His teams will have to hard to keep up with him. B school begins, Salley has painting and cleaning up Co Gymnasium in an attempt t store some pride in the C hoops programs.